

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MARTIN 00374 270134Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 /080 W  
-----001964 271004Z /13

R 251442 MAY 78  
FM AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE  
TO SCSTATE WASHDC 2971  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MARTINIQUE 374

E.O.11652/ N/  
TAGS: PGOV, MB, FR  
SUBJ: VISIT OF PAUL DIJOUD, FRENCH SECRETARY OF OVERSEAS  
DEPARTMENTS  
AND TERRITORIES--MAY 17 - 19, 1978

1. FRENCH MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEPARTMENTS AND TERRITORIES PAUL  
DIJOUD VISITED GUADALOUPE, MARTINIQUE DURING THE PAST WEEK. POST WAS  
INVITED AND DID ATTEND LARGE OFFICIAL RECEPTION HOSTED  
BY THE PREFET IN MARTINIQUE.

2. AT RECEPTION MR. DIJOUD SEEMED TRUE TO THE YOUTHFUL AND DYNAMIC  
GISCARD D'ETAING TYPE. HIS REMARKS TO THE ASSEMBLED GOVERNMENT  
FUNCTIONARIES, ELECTED OFFICIALS, LOCAL PERSONALITIES, LEADING BUSINESSMEN,  
ETC. WERE MIXED JFK-STYLE IDEALISM WITH HARD-LINE FRENCH  
CENTRALISM. ON THE ONE SIDE "I DEMAND A GREAT DEAL OF MYSELF...  
I BECAME INVOLVED IN POLITICS 12 YEARS AGO BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN JUSTICE  
AND CHANGING SOCIETY...". JUSTICE, INDEED, FIGURED LARGELY AND SEEMED  
TO BE A STRONGLY HELD SOCIAL CONCEPT, HIS OPENING WORDS EXPRESSED  
HIS PLEASURE IN BEING IN "THESE DEPARTMENTS WHICH ARE, WILL BE AND WILL BE  
E

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MARTIN 00374 270134Z

FOREVER A PART OF FRANCE". HE SAID "THERE IS NO DOUBT ON THE  
SUBJECT". AT THE CLOSE OF HIS SPEECH--ACTUALLY MORE A COLLECTION OF  
REMARKS, GIVEN WITHOUT NOTES IN A SERIES OF EXTENSIONS VERY MUCH IN

THE STYLE OF THE DEPUTY HE ONCE WAS, MR. DIJOU SOFTENED THE INTRINSIC EFFECT PRODUCED BY HIS WORDS BY DECLARING THAT BECAUSE HE WAS

100

PERCENT FOR THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT HE FELT FREE TO OFFER A HAND TO THOSE WHO WERE NOT, AND THAT HIS BRAND OF EXIGENCY DID NOT EXCLUDE A TOLERANCE, HE INVITED CITIZENS, "AS A LOYAL DUTY" TO KEEP HIM FULLY INFORMED OF PROBLEMS IN THE GOVERNMENT. HE PLEDGED THOSE UNDER HIM WOULD BE MADE TO PUT THE INTEREST OF THE STATE AND THEREFORE OF MARTINIQUE BEFORE PARTICULAR AND PRIVATE ONES.

3. IN BODY OF HIS SPEECH MR. DIJOU MADE THREE MAJOR OBSERVATIONS: (1) HE THOUGHT HIS AUDIENCE SHOULD KNOW THE CHIEF OF STATE'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE DOM (2) HE STRESSED HIS OWN DEVOTION TO HIS NEW JOB AND (3) PRONOUNCED THE COLONIAL SYSTEM DEAD, EMPHASIZED THAT ALL THE LAWS OF FRANCE APPLY TO MARTINIQUE, GUADALOUPE AND FRENCH GUIANA WITH THE SAME STATUS AS METROPOLITAN FRANCE.

4. PERHAPS UNFORTUNATELY, DIJOU DID NOT UTILIZE THE OPPORTUNITY OFFERED HIM ON THIS OCCASION OR ANY OF HIS OTHER PUBLIC SPEECHES, SO FAR PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS, TO ANNOUNCE NEW POLICIES FOR MARTINIQUE, GUADALOUPE AND FRENCH GUIANA. IN SPITE OF THIS HOWEVER, HIS REMARKS WERE CORDIALLY RECEIVED ALTHOUGH NOT WITH THE ENTHUSIASM THEIR PATRIOTIC EVOCATIONS AND EXHORTATIONS WOULD HAVE STIRRED IN A COMPLETELY UNCRITICAL AUDIENCE. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICE OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND CRAFTSMEN'S TRADE UNIONS ADMITTED TO A SCEPTICISM BO  
RN  
OUT OF EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH PARIS.

5. DIJOU'S PREFERENCE WAS A FAMILIAR THEME --  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MARTIN 00374 270134Z

PARIS COMMITMENT TO THE ABSOLUTE UNION OF THE FRENCH WEST INDIES WITH METROPOLITAN FRANCE. SIGNI

-  
FICANTLY HE MADE THE POINT, TIME AND AGAIN TO EMPHASIZE THAT MARTINIQUE, FRENCH GUIANA AND GUADALOUPE'S SPECIAL TIES WITH THE MAINLAND AND TO REMIND THE FRENCH WEST INDIANS THAT IT IS AMONG THE AREAS WHICH WILL FOREVER BE FRENCH. HIS MARTINIQUE SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED AND COULD WELL HAVE BEEN INTERPRETED BY SOME AS HIS EFFORT TO AMELIORATE THE REACTION GENERATED BY HIS DECLARATION THAT THE 40 PERCENT DEFERENTIAL AND THE LIBERAL R&R BENEFITS FOR DOM FUNCTIONARIES WOULD BE RADICALLY REDUCED IN THE FUTURE. THAT STATEMENT, MADE IN GUADALOUPE UPON HIS ARRIVAL, PRODUCED INTENSE INDIGNATION

ON THE PART OF FUNCTIONARIES (I.E. SCHOOL TEACHERS, POSTAL AND TELE-  
GRAPH, MILITARY PERSONNEL, PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEA  
DS  
SECTION CHIEFS, ETC.) WITHIN THE PREFECTORAL GOVERNMENT ITSELF.

6. NOBODY IGNORED THE VISIT: LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE RAN THE GAMUT FRO  
M  
"FRANCE ANTILLES" DUTIFUL REPRODUCTION OF THE OFFICIAL ITINERARY  
AND PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE DERISORY DEPERSONALIZATION OF "LE DIJOUR"  
BY THE COMMUNIST WEEKLY "JUSTICE". THE FRIENDLIEST PUBLI-  
CATIONS, HOWEVER, WENT NO FURTHER THAN ADMITTING THEIR GRATIFICATION  
AT THE UNPRECEDENTED VISIT.

7. FINALLY THE COMMENT MOST COMMON: "HE'S A NICE GUY BUT  
WHAT CAN HE DO?WHAT WILL HE DO?"

8. COMMENT: MANY LEADERS HERE AND IN GUADALOUPE VIEW THE VISIT AS  
REPRESENTING A HEIGHTENED CONCERN ON THE PART OF PARIS FOR THE  
FUTURE OF THE FRENCH WEST INDIES. TO THEM THE VISIT SIGNALLED A PARI  
S  
DESIRE FOR CHANGE BUT FROM WHAT TO WHAT THEY ARE STILL  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MARTIN 00374 270134Z

WONDERING.

9. FOR THE FUNCTIONARIES GIVEN THE FACT THAT PRICES HERE FOR NECESS-  
I  
TIES ARE 20-30 PERCENT ABOVE METROPOLITAN PRICES, THE 40 PERCENT  
DIFFERENTIAL WILL BE STRONGLY RESISTED. THE PROBLEM  
FACED BY PARIS HOWEVER IS COMPLICATED IN THAT THE DIFFERENTIAL HAS  
GONE BEYOND ITS INTENDED PURPOSE TO INDUCE METROPOLITAN FRENCHMEN  
TO WORK IN THE CARIBBEAN AND NOW INCLUDE ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE  
PREFEC-  
TORAL GOVERNMENT SOME OF WHOM MAY NEVER HAVE LEFT THE CARIBBEAN.  
THEY WERE RECRUITED LOCALLY AND PREFER TO TAKE THEIR VACATIONS  
VISITING OTHER CARIBBEAN ISLANDS, THE US OR OTHER PLACES.  
ONE KNOWLEDGABLE CONTACT ADVISED CONSUL THAT NUMBER OF  
EMPLOYEES GETTING 40 PERCENT REPRESENTS AN EXCESS  
OF 12 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL WORK FORCE IN GUADALOUPE .MARTINIQUE  
AND 25 PERCENT IN FRENCH GUIANA.

10. FOR THE AUTONOMISTS, DIJOUR'S VISIT WAS MERELY TO BOOST THE MORA  
LE  
OF THE DEPARTMENTALISTS. BUT HERE TOO, TALK OF A  
REDUCTION IN DIFFERENTIAL IS EQUALLY UNWANTED. THEY FEAR  
PARIS IS PREPARING TO STAND TOUGH AGAINST ANY POTENTIAL CHANGE  
IN THE STATUS AND THEY SEE THE DIFFERENTIAL ISSUE AS A BARGAINING  
CHIP IN PARIS' HANDS.  
ROBINSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL VISITS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MARTIN00374  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780224-0899  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MARTINIQUE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t197805108/aaaafjns.tel  
**Line Count:** 173  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE  
**Message ID:** 1abba494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2534779  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970819  
**Subject:** VISIT OF PAUL DIJOUR, FRENCH SECRETARY OF OVERSEAS DEPARTMENTS AND TERRITORIES--MAY 17 - 19, 1978  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PGOV, FR, MB, (DIJOUR, PAUL)  
**To:** PARIS STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1abba494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014